



A National Historic Site in Journalism
— Society of Professional Journalists

Official newspaper of the Town of Silverton and San Juan County. The *Silvertown Standard & the Miner* is published every Thursday by the San Juan County Historical Society. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 8, Silverton, CO 81433

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Subscriptions are \$24 per year for Silverton residents; \$48 per year for all other deliveries by U.S. mail. Digital e-mail delivery is available at \$26 per year.

Our goals

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ASSOCIATION

2011 Member

2010 CPA awards:

- Best Business Story
- Best Education Story
- Best Headline Writing
- Best News Page Design
- Best Editorial Layout & Design
- Best Photo Essay
- Best Special Section
- Best Newspaper Promotion

GUEST OPINION

Planning for the long haul

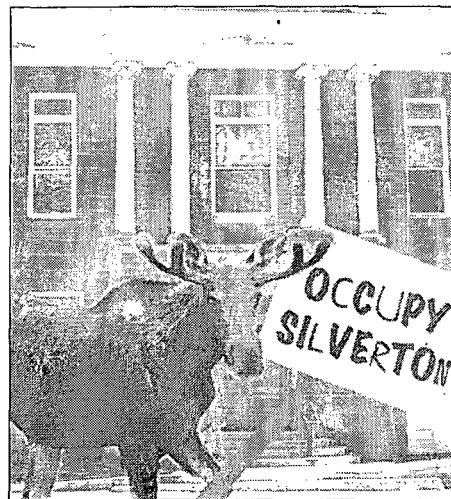
By Greg Swanson

A lot of people look towards Washington to create a jobs program; however, Governor Hickenlooper provided a more realistic focus when he called on local governments to create their own economic development programs.

Sometimes the best time to create a plan for the long-term change is when there is little chance of making any significant short-term change. I think we've reached that point. There doesn't appear to be enough money in the budget to buy a fire engine let alone fund a mine clean-up project of epic proportions.

Now is the time to decide how
See SWANSON, Page 9

MILITANT MOOSE?



The Occupy Wall Street movement is gaining support in the Silverton area, if one accepts this photo as being real.

FROM THE STANDARD MAIL CAR



The day the paper arrives is a good one

Editor,

I just wanted to thank you again for the great color photos you published in the last issue of the paper. They were just wonderful!

Also congrats for the honor from the Society of Professional Journalists! Well done!

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— Larry Gibson, Charlotte, Mich.

Say no to Superfund; yes to a local solution

Editor,

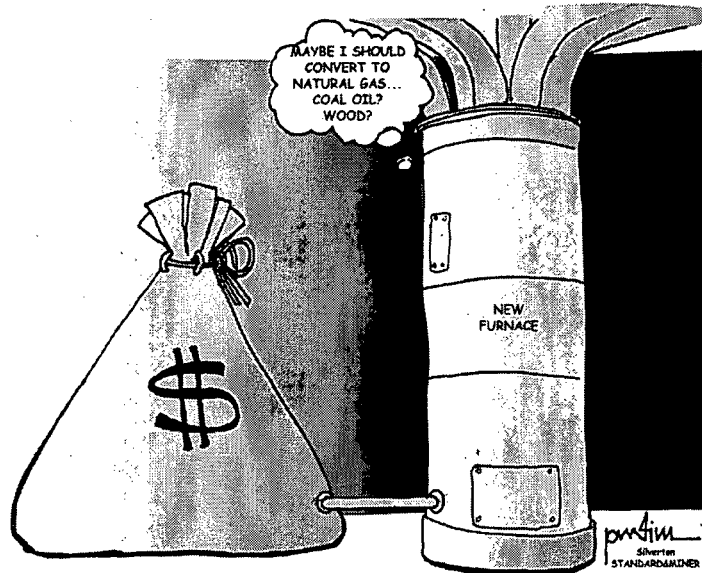
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Superfund is an inefficient, time consuming and expensive process. The designation may expand to a larger area over a longer period of time, as it did in the Coeur d'Alene Basin in Idaho.

I believe it is the wrong approach to deal with this issue. Keep it local and solutions to improve water quality will come.

— Linda Luther, Silverton

See LETTERS, Page 4



Clock falls back on Sunday

By Freddie Canfield

Our world is really quieting and slowing down. October is over and November began by one day this weather week.

We started out with the tail end of a wet, warm slush storm, from which we accumulated nearly two-thirds of an inch of water and one and a half inches of snow.

The high on Wednesday after the storm was 36. Sunday we had our warmest daytime high of 56.

Almost every day was clear — that is until Tuesday. Then, clouds began to stream in overhead gradually out of the northwest — indicative of a rapidly approaching cold front.

This storm will likely be more wind than snow for us. Flurries are beginning as I write Tuesday evening.

I awake to complete darkness, but for starlight this time of year. Our days have gone from 13 hours of sunlight possible at summer solstice to less than seven hours.

This coming Sunday the clock falls back, maybe Missy Raab, your correspondent and our

WEATHER AND OBSERVATIONS

Date	High	Low	Precip., conditions
Oct. 26	36	19	Near clear
Oct. 27	45	14	Clear
Oct. 28	50	13	Clear
Oct. 29	49	13	Clear
Oct. 30	56	17	Clear
Oct. 31	55	17	Clear
Nov. 1	55	17	1.5" snow, overcast

combined teams will get out for some dog-cart racing. We shall see.

Pack bonding with our new girl, Ninja, continues over at my place. Missy and her dogs, Mora and Luna, are getting to know Ninja. More sled dog stories for you soon, for sure.

Freddie's eyelids are getting heavy. It is time for a long winter's nap. My dogs are all curled up in their respective dogloos, the good role models and teachers that they are.

Enjoy this ever more quiet and peaceful time of the year.

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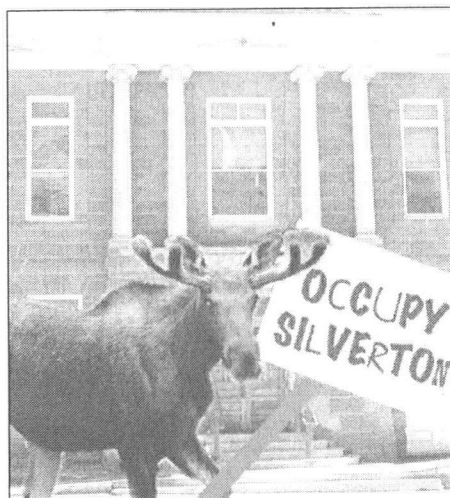
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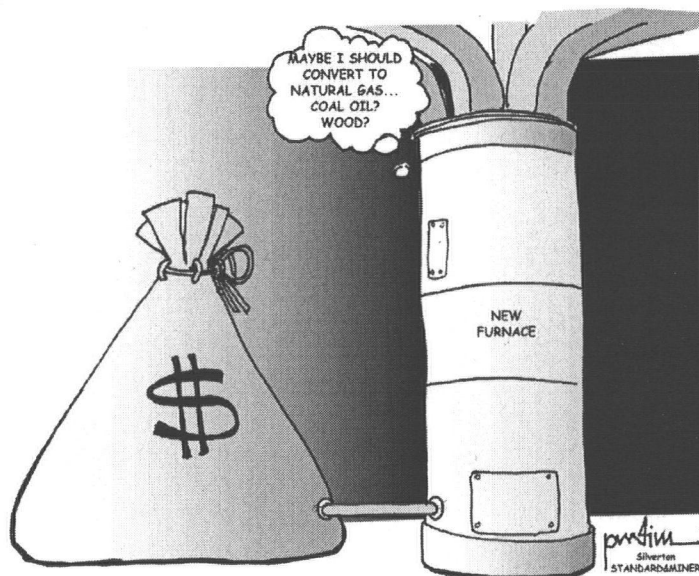
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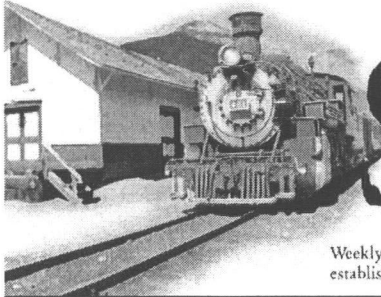
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Silverton STANDARD & the MINER

Weekly Miner
established 1875

SILVERTON'S PIONEER NEWSPAPER SINCE 1875

Silverton Standard
established 1889

IN BRIEF

Rep. Tipton's staff to take comments on wilderness bill

Rep. Scott Tipton's staff will hold the second in a series of public meetings to gather feedback on the San Juan Wilderness proposal on Thursday, Nov. 10, at the Silverton Town Hall building. The listening session will be conducted in an open house format from 5:30-7:30 p.m. MST.

People are encouraged to come throughout the duration of the open house to speak with representatives from Congressman Tipton's office about the San Juan Wilderness proposal.

"I appreciate all of the work that Senator Udall and his staff have done on San Juan and I am anxious to gather feedback from my constituents on this issue," Tipton said in a press release. "My office will be holding a series of public meetings to gather feedback on the San Juan Wilderness proposal and I encourage all sides to continue their dialogue."

If unable to attend the public meetings, Rep. Tipton encourages constituents to provide feedback by e-mailing or mailing his office.

E-mail:

SanJuanFeedback@mail.house.gov

Mailing address: Office of Congressman Scott Tipton, 218 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515

Blood drive Nov. 8

A blood drive is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 8 at the Kendall Mountain Community Center.

Call Judy Kuhlman at 387-5635 or United Blood Services at 385-4601. All donors will be entered in a drawing for two round-trip tickets donated by Great Lakes Airlines.

Planning to start for Snowscape, Skijoring

A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the Grand Imperial at 4:30 p.m. for the planning of Snowscape 2012, set for Feb. 10-12.

Shasta Foster will be leading these efforts and needs some help planning and holding the event. If you have questions, suggestions, ideas please contact her at the Grand Imperial or e-mail her at shastanicoles@gmail.com and/or join us at the meeting so we can keep Snowscape going.

The Silverton Skijoring Festival is scheduled for Feb. 18-19 on Blair Street, with registration available on Feb. 17.

See BRIEFS, Page 5

Election results at a glance:

Silverton school board:
✓ Keri Metzler 192
✓ Katie Houston 174
✓ Dan Salazar 169
Mary Krause 58

County ballot measure — 1 mil for emergency equipment

Yes 116
✓ No 135

State ballot measure — education funding

Yes 91
✓ No 164

ELECTION: Nov. 1, 2011

Voters reject millage

San Juan County voters have elected three school board members and rejected a proposed county property tax to fund purchases of emergency equipment.

Elected to the Silverton school board were incumbents Keri Metzler (192 votes), and

Dan Salazar (169 votes). Katie Houston was elected to a 4-year term with 174 votes.

Mary Krause, the fourth candidate for the three open seats, received 58 votes.

School board members are not paid for their work.

A proposed 1-mil property

tax levy to fund county purchases of emergency equipment for the Sheriff's Office, Silverton Ambulance Association and the newly formed Silverton-San Juan Fire and Rescue Authority was rejected by voters, but by a narrow margin. Voting yes were

See ELECTION, Page 5

THE LAST TRAIN OUT OF SILVERTON



The Local Appreciation Train heads south from Silverton on Sunday morning, Oct. 30.

Melanie Bergold/Silverton Standard & the Miner

Wilderness bill backed (well, sort of)

County commissioners vote again on the issue

By Mark Esper

The San Juan County Board of Commissioners continue to support the San Juan Wilderness Bill introduced by Sen. Mark Udall, D-Colo.

Well, sort of. Actually, the commissioners voted 2-1 last week to support the wilderness bill — provided it does not affect mining.

That is a different stance from when the same three commis-

sioners, following an April 29, 2009 public hearing, endorsed the bill unanimously with no caveats.

The time around County Board Chairman Ernie Kuhlman said that while he is OK with the portion of the bill setting aside a Sheep Mountain Special Management Area in the Ice Lakes area, he opposes the idea of expanding wilderness areas elsewhere in the San Juans.

"Personally I don't support expanding wilderness," Kuhlman said.

After some discussion on the

issue Wednesday night, County Commissioner Pete McKay pressed the question of whether his fellow commissioners still stand with their April 29, 2009 vote, which came after a hearing which heard wide public support for the bill.

"Either this county supports the Udall bill or we don't," McKay said. "The people have a right to know. I thought we had an understanding that we would continue to support the Udall wilderness bill."

Kuhlman acknowledged he voted to support the proposed

wilderness bill in 2009. "but we wanted to take another look at it."

Commissioner Terry Rhoades said he still favors the wilderness bill as long as he gets assurance it won't affect mining or other jobs.

He said after meeting with Sen. Udall's representatives he was assured that is the case, so he still supports the bill.

The commissioners then adopted a motion to support the bill with an amendment that the support is contingent on there being no adverse impact on mining and jobs.